

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Servo tracks are written onto different disk surfaces using multiple recording heads within a disk drive without requiring a servo writing machine or clean room conditions. Microactuators in the reference heads in the disk drive are capable of independent motion with respect to one another, which allows the servo tracks to be written to the disk surfaces. The process begins as the recording heads are biased against a crash stop, and then moved to an adjacent track. One of the heads writes a reference track at this adjacent track position when a microactuator of the head is centered. This reference head then follows the reference track with its microactuator centered, while the other recording heads move in the radial direction to write servo information on their respective tracks. Reference tracks are then successively used to write the servo information as the recording heads move in a direction away from the crash stop.

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